

City Business
by Michael Leamons

The agenda for the December 12th Regular Council Meeting, subject to change between now and when posted on Friday, is expected to include discussion and possible action on the following:

1. The levying of taxes on goods in transit. The Legislature exempted goods in transit from local ad valorem taxes unless the local taxing authority votes to reinstate the tax. The Council is being provided an opportunity to decide whether or not to reinstate this tax. As required by law, a public hearing will be held just prior to the Regular Meeting to solicit public input.
2. The local electrician licensing program. Several years ago the Council voted to create a local electrician licensing program to provide a transition into the State's Electrician Licensing Program under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). The local program is being re-evaluated to see whether the Council wishes to continue or discontinue it.
3. The Economic Development Plan for Hico created with the help of the Knowledge Engineering section of A&M's Texas Engineering Extension Service. After several months of work, a fully developed plan is being presented to the Council for consideration.
4. Relocation of the Fire Department Antenna from the Magnolia Street Standpipes to the Elevated Storage on Iredell. Due to new regulatory requirements, the Fire Department has to make changes to its radio communications equipment. A new antenna is required. Rather than installing the new antenna on the Magnolia Standpipes which are scheduled to be removed, the Fire Department is planning on installing the antenna on the Elevated Storage on Iredell. Plans are already underway to make the transition, but "for the record" formal ratification of the installation is being sought.
5. City Administrator Performance Review. The Council decided not to conduct the review last month since two of the Council members were not present.

As always, should you have questions or concerns regarding the above agenda items or other matters concerning the City, you are encouraged to contact your elected officials and/or attend the Council Meeting. Your participation in the process is encouraged.

May God bless the City of Hico.